

**CLAIM AMENDMENTS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A method of indicating connectivity comprising:  
  
establishing a communication link between a modem of a user and a network aggregation point;  
  
authorizing access by the modem to an information service;  
  
visually indicating an existence of the communication link at a first location of the modem; and  
  
visually indicating an availability of the information service at a second location of the modem.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
  
utilizing a first light emitting diode to indicate the existence of the communication link;  
  
and  
  
utilizing a second light emitting diode to indicate the availability of the information service.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1, executing a Point to Point Protocol over Ethernet client in connection with establishing the communication link.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, communicating a user credential to an authentication server in connection with authorizing access to the information service.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising communicating information from the information service to the modem via the network aggregation point.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the modem comprises a user interface having visual display capabilities.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the user interface comprises the first location and the second location.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising distributing the modem to the user.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the modem comprises an xDSL modem.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the modem comprises a cable modem.
11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network aggregation point comprises a cable modem termination system.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the network aggregation point comprises a digital subscriber line access multiplexer.
13. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising disabling an indication of the existence of the communication link in response to recognizing a loss of the communication link.

14. (Currently Amended) A connectivity indication system, comprising:

- a ~~user interface~~ display element coupled to a housing component, the ~~user interface~~ display element comprising a visual display portion;
- the housing component at least partially defining an enclosure;
- a broadband modem ~~module~~ unit secured within the enclosure;
- a link detection mechanism communicatively coupled to the broadband modem ~~module~~ unit and operable to output a link signal in response to a determination that a communication link exists between the broadband modem ~~module~~ unit and a network aggregation point;
- a data detection mechanism operable to output an access signal in response to a recognition that the broadband modem ~~module~~ unit enjoys access to a remote information service;
- a first indicator operable to be displayed within the ~~user interface~~ display element in response to the link signal; and
- a second indicator operable to be displayed within the ~~user interface~~ display element in response to the access signal.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, wherein the ~~user interface~~ display element comprises a plurality of light emitting diodes within the visual display portion, further wherein the first indicator comprises a lighted one of the plurality of light emitting diodes and the second indicator comprises a different lighted one of the plurality of light emitting diodes.

16. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, wherein the broadband modem ~~module~~ unit comprises a cable modem.

17. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, wherein the broadband modem ~~module~~ unit comprises an xDSL modem.

18. (Original) The system of claim 14, further comprising a PPPoE client executing on a processor secured within the enclosure.

19. (Original) A method of generating connectivity awareness comprising:  
providing a subscriber with a broadband modem comprising at least a first indicator operable to display a connectivity status indicating whether a connection exists between the broadband modem and a network aggregation node and a second indicator operable to display a data status indicating an availability of access to a remote information service node; and  
providing a broadband data service to the subscriber.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising:  
receiving a trouble shooting request from the subscriber, the trouble shooting request relating to the broadband service; and  
prompting the user to observe the first and second indicator.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, further comprising:  
receiving a communication indicating that the first indicator displays a positive connectivity status and the second indicator displays a negative data status; and  
determining an appropriate suggestion responsive to the trouble shooting request.